

VZCZCXRO9379
OO RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH RUEHTRO
DE RUEHGO #0514 2230841
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 110841Z AUG 09
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9325
INFO RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2211
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 5675
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9279
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6858
RUEHCHI/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 2276
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2650
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

UNCLAS RANGOON 000514

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP/MLS, AND IO
PACOM FOR FPA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [BM](#)

SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE SHAKES RANGOON, NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES

11. (SBU) A magnitude 7.6 earthquake with its epicenter near the Andaman Islands caused buildings to shake in Rangoon and sent strong tremors through the Irrawaddy Delta region, lasting about seven minutes. No damage or injuries have been reported in the Rangoon area, which according to the U.S. Geological Survey experienced roughly a magnitude 4.0 earthquake. Contacts in the Bogale and Pyapon region in the Irrawaddy Delta reported no damage or casualties in their immediate areas. Our Delta contacts also did not notice any tidal surges, but said these tremors were stronger than an earthquake in 2004. Oil company drilling rigs and production platforms in Martaban Gulf near the Delta were undamaged.

12. (SBU) The earthquake struck Rangoon, 448 miles northeast of the epicenter, around 2:27 a.m. State media outlets have not reported the news. Our Delta contacts told us that they failed to receive the tsunami warning, but given the timing of the warning and poor telecommunications, it is questionable if it would have reached the populace in any case.
DINGER